

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 21 are pending in this application.

**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102**

In paragraph 3 of the Action, the Office has rejected Claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,980,543 to Kastenholz et al. (Kastenholz). The Office has cited Kastenholz for its disclosure of scalability of bandwidth (i.e. interconnect channel capacities).

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite that the circuit design optimizations are based on “interconnect channel capacities, scalability of interconnect channel capacities and isochronous interconnect configuration” (emphasis added).

Such a limitation clearly distinguishes over Kastenholz. Kastenholz fails to disclose, teach or suggest integrated circuit design optimization based on a combination of design characteristics including interconnect channel capacities, scalability of interconnect channel capacities, and isochronous interconnect configuration. Accordingly, the removal of all the pending rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of Kastenholz is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-5, 7-9, 11-12 and 21 are believed to be allowable based on their dependence upon allowable base claims.

**CONCLUSION**

In light of the forgoing amendments and arguments, reconsideration of the claims is hereby requested, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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